

*stronger resolution  
teamwork pays off  
everyone has their  
part.*

## EPISODE OUTLINE - STACY'S PARTY

Principal Characters:	Supporting Characters:	Extras:
All (Less Vickie)	Ginny	2-3

SOCIAL THEME: Importance of responsibility and consequences of being irresponsible

STATION EVENT: New last minute schedule and Stacy's party

THOMAS EPISODES: "Thomas and the Breakdown Train," and "Down the Mine"

PUPPET SONG: "Sweet Betsy From Pike"

PICTURE MACHINE: None

ACQUIRED FOOTAGE: None

CREATIVE PLAY: None

BILLY STORY: None

RESOLUTION: Temptations can lead to trouble

STORY OUTLINE: Begins with puppets in party outfits having a big birthday party celebration. But as they discuss the party, it becomes apparent that each one thought it was the other's birthday, and in fact it's none of their birthdays. The puppets decide to have the party anyway, and burst into a wild party song.

Out on the main set, Stacy hurries in with her suitcase. She's in a hurry because, as she reminds the kids, today she's going to her sister Tracy's ranch out west. There is going to be a family reunion, where all her relatives will be, and Stacy has been looking forward to it for a long time. She briefly describes the food and games at the party, and how much fun she expects to have.

Billy comes out to see her off, assuring her that everything will be all right while she's away. Just as she's about to leave, the phone rings. It's J.B. King. As Stacy listens, her face drops.

It turns out that all the trains are now going to be routed through the Snarleyville Station, and this means that the entire schedule has to be rewritten. As Stacy repeats the names of towns all up and down the line, and how the trains are scheduled

through them, her face drops. Her own train pulls in. Stacy hands up the phone, dejected: she can't go on her trip, she must stay and work on the schedule--otherwise it could be dangerous and there might be an accident because of a train going down the wrong track. Her train pulls out, and Stacy heaves a sad sigh and gets down to work.

A cut to the puppets reveals that they're heartbroken for Stacy. They stop their own party.

The kids feel sorry for Stacy, and along with Billy, they resolve to throw her a surprise party to cheer her up.

Mr. Conductor appears. He's in good spirits: he's been out to Lucy's Leap, playing leap frog with some real frogs. Other than getting a little wet and slippery, it's been great fun.

The kids tell him about Stacy and their planned party. This leads into the TTE Story: "Thomas and the Breakdown Train," as an example of helping others when in need. Wishing them luck at the party, and promising to attend, Mr. Conductor vanishes.

The kids pool their money and decide to use it to buy things for the party. They each remark where the money has come from: allowance, or what they've earned doing jobs around home or the station.

Ginny arrives and is surprised to see Stacy. Stacy briefly explains what happened, and Ginny sees how disappointed Stacy is. Ginny had come thinking Stacy wasn't there, and was really just looking in to see how things were going. The kids take her aside and tell her their plans. Ginny had brought some fudge for them, and she contributes it to the party.

Ginny gets a brainstorm and remembers that she has some fun party things back at her house. The girls decide to go with her, and leave Dan in charge of the fudge and the money, while they go with Ginny to get some party supplies.

Schemer enters looking for a package from Buttertown that he's expecting to be delivered on the next freight train. Seeing the package isn't there, he becomes critical of the railroad in general, and Stacy's operation in particular.

Stacy is not in the mood for Schemer, and gives him a piece of her mind. Taken aback, Schemer retreats to a corner. ("Gee, what's with her?") Billy tells him what's happened. Schemer is unmoved, preferring to nurse his own imagined hurt from Stacy's retort to him.



He wanders over to where Dan is sitting and helps himself to some fudge. Dan explains that the fudge is for the surprise party, but Schemer says that Stacy has hurt his feelings, and that entitles him to some. He points out that Dan has been left here all alone, holding the bag, so to speak, while the "girls" are off at Ginny's house having a good time. Schemer paints a picture of them together, while Dan sits it out all alone. Schemer mentions that Dan should have some fudge, too, since Ginny originally brought it for the kids, anyhow. Dan gives in and has some.

Seeing a potential to make some money, Schemer continues to play on Dan, suggesting that he should play a song to cheer himself up. Better yet, play a song that Stacy likes, and that way he'll make two people feel better. Once more, Dan gives in. It feels good spending money, Schemer observes. Dan agrees.  
Puppet Song: "Sweet Betsy From Pike"

During the song, we see cuts of Dan playing other machines in the arcade, while Schemer stands by egging him on to spend more money.

Coming out of the song, Dan finishes playing an arcade game and suddenly realizes that he's spent all the money entrusted to him. Schemer has no sympathy, says something about how fun it was while it lasted, and exits.

Now Dan is frightened of what's going to happen when the others find out what he's done. Mr. Conductor appears. He tells Dan that it will work out--Dan just got a little carried away. This leads into TTE Story: "Down the Mine."

Mr. Conductor concludes that Thomas also got a little carried away, and was irresponsible, but Gordon proved to be understanding in the end--and so will Dan's friends.

Kara returns, and there is a confrontation when she finds out what Dan's done. He apologizes. Mr. Conductor convinces them that instead of arguing about it, they need to pull together and make a plan.

Schemer returns, this time with his package. He sits down and opens it: the box is full of fruit cake. Schemer explains that he plans to repackage the fruit cakes and resell them at a higher price, claiming that his mother has made them.

The kids shame him into contributing the fruit cakes to Stacy's party, especially in light of how he took all the fudge and money in the first place. Reluctantly, Schemer hands the fruit cake over.

appeal to  
sense  
of  
fairness  
or obligation

(need free  
music)

Ginny enters and when Stacy emerges from the workshop the party begins. Billy then announces some good news: the new schedule reveals that Stacy could take the newly scheduled express train tomorrow morning and still get to her sister's house in time to enjoy most of the family reunion. Now it's a real party. *Bon Voyage*

Dan, having learned his lesson, quietly slips a slice of fruit cake to Mr. Conductor and thanks him for his help.



Strengthen  
connections of  
story - line.

SHINING TIME STATION

"Stacy's Party"

By

Wilson Coneybeare

First Draft:  
July 8, 1991

SCENE 1:  
(INT JUKEBOX)

(COME UP ON PUPPETS FINISHING OFF  
SONG WITH A BIG FINISH. THEY ARE  
ALL WEARING PARTY FINERY AND THERE  
ARE STREAMERS EVERYWHERE)

TITO:

Now cats, that was one  
hot and happening number!

DIDI:

Out of sight! This sure  
is one wild party! Happy  
birthday, Rex!

REX:

Much obliged, Didi, much  
obliged. Be even better if  
it was my birthday.

DIDI:

What? You mean it's not?

REX:

Can't be.

DIDI:

Gee, Rex, are you sure?

REX:

Well, I don't have any  
presents for Tex, and  
we've got the same  
birthday, so if I don't  
have any presents for  
him, it can't be his  
birthday, so it ain't  
mine.

*having a present  
for his brother is a  
weak beginning to the chain of  
logic*

TEX:

It's a good point, Rex.

REX:

Got a million of 'em Tex.

*of good points / not of birthdays*

SCENE 1 (CONTD)

DIDI:

Wait a minute, If it's  
not Rex's birthday, and I  
know it's not mine--

TITO:

Then it must be mine!

OTHERS:

Happy birthday, Tito!

TITO:

Thanks, man, what great  
friends. Except...I had  
my birthday two weeks  
ago.

DIDI:

But if it's nobody's  
birthday and we're  
already having a party,  
what are we celebrating?

TITO:

The only thing we can  
celebrate -- nobody's  
birthday! Hit it!

*carry*

(THEY GO INTO "HAPPY BIRTHDAY DEAR  
NOBODY")



SCENE 2:  
(MAINSET)

(WE HEAR MUSIC LOW IN B.G.)

(TWO SUITCASES ARE ON STEPS AT  
ARCHWAY. KARA AND VICKIE ARE TYING  
CLAIM TICKETS TO THEM)

VICKIE:

Gee, if Stacy doesn't  
hurry up she's going to  
miss her train!

KARA:

I think she's a little  
excited about going away.

VICKIE:

What makes you say that?

(STACY RUSHES IN, PULLING ON HER  
COAT. SHE'S VERY HARRIED -- HAS A  
PIECE OF PAPER IN HER HAND)

STACY:

Okay, wait, no! Right! I  
think I've got  
everything. Vickie, could  
you list off this read --  
I mean, read off this  
list to me?

(VICKIE READS OFF PAPER AS KARA  
HELPS STACY PUT ON COAT. ETC.)

VICKIE:

Toothbrush, pajamas,  
cookies, hairbrush,  
balloons, presents for  
family --

STACY:

Oh no! Where are the  
presents I got for my  
family? I can't go to my  
family reunion without  
presents!

(DAN ENTERS LUGGING BIG BOX)

SCENE 2 (CONTD)

DAN:

Here they are, Aunt  
Stacy.

STACY:

Oh thank you, Dan! I  
guess I'm a little  
scatterbrained. I always  
get excited when I go to  
my Uncle Stubby's Ranch  
in Pelican Falls. It's so  
wonderful being with  
relatives you haven't  
seen in awhile.

*I'm not thinking straight  
about me!*

VICKIE:

I've never been to a  
family reunion. What do  
you do?

STACY:

Oh, we sing songs and hug  
and laugh, and Auntie  
Grace will make the most  
wonderful meals and -- Oh  
no! I forgot --

BILLY:

(ENTERING)

your lunch? Right here.

(INDEED, BILLY HAS BOXED LUNCH FOR  
HER)

A nice big sandwich and  
all sorts of fruits and  
vegetables for the train  
ride.

STACY:

Billy, you're a  
lifesaver!

SCENE 2 (CONTD)

BILLY:

Well you just make sure  
you have a good time at  
this reunion.

STACY:

Oh, I know I will.  
Nothing can stop me from  
that.

(THE PHONE RINGS - STACY ANSWERS)

Shining Time Station,  
Stacy Jones speaking, how  
may I help you? Oh, Mr.  
King! A problem with the  
train schedule?

(WE HEAR TRAIN COMING IN)

DAN:

Aunt Stacy, that's your  
Train!

Stacy:

(COVERS RECEIVER)

Just an minute, Dan. It's  
Mr, King, the Superintendent  
of railroad.

(BACK ON)

Yes, Mr. King? Oh no.  
Everything's being  
rerouted through  
Snarlyville? But that  
will mean the train to  
East Shemp will cross the  
freight to Chubby Corners  
and that the Rainbow Sun  
to Mount Careful will...  
Oh, you know all that.

KARA:

come on, we'd better put  
Stacy's bags on the train  
for her.



SCENE 2 (CONTD)

BILLY:

Hold onto that thought,  
Kara. I think we might  
have a problem here.

KARA:

A problem? Like What?

(BILLY GESTURES TO STACY ON THE  
PHONE AS SHE WRAPS UP CALL,  
DEFLATED)

STACY:

Yes, I understand, Mr.  
King. Of course. Goodbye.

(SHE HANGS UP AS KIDS PICK UP HER  
BAGS)

I think you'd better  
leave the bags right  
there. I'm not going.

KIDS:

What??

STACY:

Well. it seems there's  
an emergency in the main  
track. All the trains  
have to be routed through  
Snarlyville.

KIDS:

So??

STACY:

Well, that means I have  
to draw up a new schedule  
right away.

VICKIE:

Gee, Stacy, can't you do  
that when you get back?

SCENE 2 (CONTD)

BILLY:

You don't understand,  
Vickie. If that new  
schedule isn't made up,  
there could be an  
accident on the railroad.

STACY:

(REMOVES COAT)

Billy's right. It's my  
Responsibility. I'd  
better unpack and get to  
work.

(DESPONDENT SHE TAKES ONE OF HER  
BAGS AND MOVES OFF KIDS LOOK TO  
BILLY AS WE HEAR TRAIN LEAVE)

VICKIE:

But there goes her train!  
Gee, Billy, Stacy was so  
excited about seeing her  
family and now...it's not  
fair!

BILLY:

That's the way things go  
sometimes, Vickie. Stacy  
knows she's the only one  
who can draw up that  
schedule, and if she  
didn't, people might be  
hurt, She's doing the  
responsible thing.

(MOVES OFF. KIDS LOOK AT ONE  
ANOTHER)

KARA:

Boy, when I grow up I'm  
gonna make sure I don't  
have any responsibilities  
at all.

SCENE 3:

(INT. JUKEBOX)

(PUPPETS HAVE STOPPED THEIR PARTY)

DIDI:

What a gyp!*use diff word*

TITO:

Man, I gotta agree. That  
is some raw deal. Hey,  
Rex, my man, are you  
okay?

(WE SEE REX IS CRYING)

TEX:

He's too upset to talk,  
Tito. Aren't you, Rex?

REX:

Sure am, Tex. Nothin'  
worse than being hog-tied  
when all you wanna do is  
see your kin.

DIDI:

Gee, Rex, I'm sure we can  
think of something that  
won't make Stacy feel so  
sad and disappointed  
and... and...

(SHE STARTS CRYING)

and...heartbroken and...

TITO:

Oh, ma-an, don't do this.  
Now you got me cryin',  
and if I get my sequins  
wet --

(BREAKING DOWN)

I just won't know what to  
do with myself!



SCENE 3 (CONTD)

TEX:

Well, pardners, all I can  
say is that this is one  
jaded jukebox jamboree.

*Conroy*

SCENE 4:  
(MAINSET)

(BAGS ARE GONE AND THE THREE KIDS  
ARE SITTING, DESPONDENT ON STEPS OF  
ARCHWAY. BILLY APPROACHES, SEES  
THEM)

BILLY:

Seems to me I see three  
very long faces.

VICKIE:

We're sad. Billy.

BILLY:

Oh. In that case, I'll  
join you.

(HE SITS DOWN, MAKES A FOURTH,  
ADOPTS THEIR POSE. AFTER A MOMENT)

What are we sad about?

KARA:

Stacy.

BILLY:

Oh.

(BEAT)

Why are we sad about  
Stacy?

DAN:

She was really looking  
forward to going away and  
now she can't.

BILLY:

Oh, I see. I guess  
there's nothing we could  
do to cheer her up. I  
mean, to do that you'd  
have to -- I don't know  
-- throw her a party of  
something.

SCENE 4 (CONTD)

KARA:

(TO DAN AND VICKIE)

We could throw her a party or something.

DAN:

Hey yeah, maybe we could...

BILLY:

But then to really make it fun, it would probably have to be a surprise.

VICKIE:

We could make it a surprise.

BILLY:

But then you'd have to figure a way to have treats and balloons and games and things.

KARA:

We could have treats and balloons and games and things!

DAN AND VICKIE:

Yeah, that's a great idea! Billy, are you all right?

BILLY:

Mm? Oh, I'm a little sad thinking about Stacy.

KARA:

Don't worry, Billy!



SCENE 4 (CONTD)

KARA: (CONTD)

We're going to throw her  
a surprise party with  
treats and games and  
balloons and things!

BILLY:

You mean... Hey, that's a  
great idea!

(RISES)

You three always figure  
out something. I wish I  
had Ideas like that.

*omit /*

(AND HE'S GONE)

(SPFX: MR. C POPS IN)

MR. C:

Did I hear someone say  
I've been to a party?

KARA:

Hi Mr. Conductor. No, We  
said we're going to have  
a party.

MR. C:

Oh well. that's  
different. I'd hate to  
have been to a party I  
messed, especially since  
I was just at a party.

DAN:

Gee, Mr. Conductor,  
that's confusing.

MR, C:

Oh no, it wasn't a  
confusing party, it was a  
jumping party. I was  
playing leap frog out at  
Lucy's leap.

SCENE 4 (CONTD)

KARA:

You mean you were playing  
leap frog with real  
frogs?

MR. C:

Of course, and aside from  
getting a little wet and  
slippery, I'd say we had  
one leaping good time.

VICKIE:

Well the party we're  
talking about is for  
Stacy. She didn't get to  
go to her family reunion,  
so we thought we'd have a  
party to cheer her up.

MR. C:

A capital idea! It's most  
important to help friends  
when they're feeling down  
or in a bit of a spot. I  
was just telling the  
frogs that very thing.

DAN:

Were the frogs in a spot?

MR. C:

Spotted but not in a  
spot. No, I told them  
about James and Gordon  
and the breakdown train,  
which was a spot -- of  
trouble, anyway. Watch  
and I'll explain:

*omit*

(HE BLOWS WHISTLE AND WE GO TO:)

(SPFX: THOMAS INTRO FX)

SCENE 5:

(TTE SEGMENT: "THOMAS AND THE  
BREAKDOWN TRAIN")

SCENE 6:  
(MAINSET)

MR. C:

So you see, everyone  
needs help at some time,  
whether it's an engine  
who needs help over a  
bump, or a friend in a  
bit of a slump. Speaking  
of which --

(WE HEAR A FROG GOING "RIBBIT")

-- I think it's my turn  
to jump.

(WITH THAT HE "JUMPS" OFF)

VICKIE:

You know, Mr. Conductor's  
right; let's make this  
the best party Stacy ever  
had!

KARA:

But how do we start?

VICKIE:

Well first off. We'll  
need to buy decorations  
and balloons and treats  
and things. Billy gave me  
--

(CHECKS POCKETS)

-- ten cents for the time  
I cleaned the basement.

DAN:

I've got money from  
helping Mr. Winslow at  
his general store.

KARA:

I've got my allowance and  
what I made from washing  
windows --

SCENE 6 (CONTD)

VICKIE:

Well that should be  
enough money to get  
everything we need to  
buy. Now what else can we  
do?

DAN:

I know! I could make a  
sign that says, "Cheer up  
Stacy!"

VICKIE:

That's a great idea! We  
could also --

(BUT THEY ARE INTERRUPTED BY A VERY  
FAMILIAR VOICE)

GINNY: (O.S.)

Hey hey hey, what do we  
say!

KIDS:

It's Ginny from Farmer's  
Dell!

(INDEED IT IS GINNY, CARRYING A  
SMALL CAKE BOX. KIDS SURROUND HER)

Hi, Ginny!

KARA:

We didn't know you were  
coming today, Ginny.

*why would they ever  
know?*

GINNY:

Well, hey, I woke myself  
up this morning and said,  
"throw me off the dog  
house roof, but isn't it  
today that Stacy goes on  
her vacation?" And I  
answered myself, "It sure  
is, Ginny!"



SCENE 6 (CONTD)

GINNY: (CONTD)

You'd best go down and  
see how the kids are  
doing while Stacy's  
gone!"

(A HARRIED STACY, CLIPBOARD AND  
PAPERS IN HAND, GOES TO WORK AT  
TICKET AREA)

STACY:

Hi there, Ginny.

GINNY:

Hi, Stacy, So! Any  
trouble yet with -- well  
hey! Twist me into a flag  
pole but did I just say,  
"Hi, Stacy"?

KARA:

Stacy had to stay here  
and work out the new train  
schedule so no trains  
will smack into each  
other.

GINNY:

Well now say! That sounds  
like an apple with a  
mighty big worm inside!

VICKIE:

But we've figured a way  
to cheer her up. It's ---

(BUT VICKIE STOPS, AWARE OF STACY  
WORKING AT BOOTH. THE KIDS PULL  
GINNY OVER NEAR ARCADE AND WHISPER  
IN HER EAR. SHE RESPONDED IN AN  
EXCITED WHISPER)

GINNY:

A surprise party, big  
signs and all! Now that's  
what Ginny calls a corker  
of an idea.

SCENE 6 (CONTD)

GINNY: (CONTD)

A real corker! And isn't  
it fitting that old Ginny  
is holding in her mitt on  
full box of --

(SHE OPENS BOX AND SHOWS IT TO  
THEM. THEY RESPOND, HIDING THEIR  
REACTION FROM STACY)

KIDS:

Fudge!

GINNY:

Fresh-made fudge for my  
favorite train-yard trio,  
but it sounds to me like  
it might be better used  
for Stacy's party.

VICKIE:

Hey, that's great, Ginny!

GINNY:

And not only that, if old  
Ginny's noggin' isn't on  
vacation, I seem to  
remember I have a whole  
bunch of party things at  
the farm. Maybe we should  
go back there and see  
what we can find, eh?

KARA:

That's great!

GINNY:

So what say we divide our  
forces and you girls come  
with me while Dan works  
on his sign. Later on,  
all four of us'll go to  
Barton Winslow and buy  
whatever else we need.

SCENE 6 (CONTD)

KIDS:

Right, that's great!

VICKIE:

Here, Dan. You take care  
of the money and we'll be  
back in no time.

DAN:

(TAKING CASH)

Boy, this is gonna be the  
best party ever. Nothing  
can stop us now!

FLIP TO:

SCENE 7:  
(MAINSET)

(GUESS WHO? SCHEMER IS LEANING  
IMPATIENTLY AT THE EMPTY TICKET  
DESK, VERY FULL OF HIMSELF. HE HITS  
THE BELL)

SCHEMER:

Ah-hem! Service, please!

(NOTHING, HITS BELL AGAIN)

Service-er-rooni!

(HITS BELL AGAIN. STACY COMES OUT,  
IN A NONE TOO HAPPY MOOD)

STACY:

What is it, Schemer?!

SCHEMER:

Miss Jones, I am  
expecting a very  
important package and  
need to know if it's come  
in yet. I am referring.  
of course, to my  
sea monkeys and the pair  
of X-ray glasses I  
ordered.

STACY:

Nothing's come in yet,  
Schemer.

SCHEMER:

What?! But this is  
important. I demand you  
call the freight  
controller right now!

STACY:

Look, Schemer, no trains  
are running on time  
because everything's been  
rerouted and --

SCENE 7 (CONTD)

SCHEMER:

And this is the Schemer's fault?!

STACY:

Schemer, I've got to work out this new schedule and there's nothing I can do about a late shipment so you'll just have to wait!

*out of proportion*

*must yell a lot*

*to hurt his feelings. To this extent*

*feelings too easily hurt*

SCHEMER:

Well you don't have to yell.

STACY:

I'm sorry, Schemer, it's just that...

SCHEMER:

No you're not! You're not sorry at all! You just want to hurt my feelings.

STACY:

Schemer, all I meant was...

SCHEMER:

No, no, you can't take it back now. It's -- it's *not* --erasable!

(HE MOVES OFF, UPSET, GOES TO AREA NEAR INFO BOOTH WHERE DAN IS WORKING SIGN. SCHEMER SITS AND BLOWS HIS NOSE FROM HUGE HANKY)

Think a guy doesn't have and feelings... doesn't need his X-ray glasses...

DAN:

Hi Schemer.



SCENE 7 (CONTD)

SCHEMER:

Oh sure, pretend you  
care!

DAN:

What's the matter,  
Schemer?

SCHEMER:

Miss Jones just attacked  
me with malicious  
intent-er-ooni.

DAN:

Oh, she didn't mean to.  
She's kind of sad because  
she couldn't go to her  
family reunion --

SCHEMER:

Yeah but she hurt my  
feelings! No X-Ray  
glasses... I was going to  
spend the whole day  
looking through walls, and  
instead I get yelled at.

(BLOWS NOSE, SEES FUDGE)

What's this? Fudge? Well,  
it might help...

(TAKES FUDGE, TIMIDLY NIBBLES IT)

DAN:

Sorry, Schemer, but  
that's for the surprise  
party we're giving Stacy.

SCHEMER:

Oh sure oh sure, take  
fudge away from me, too!  
What do you mean,  
surprise party "we're"  
giving Stacy?

SCENE 7 (CONTD)

DAN:

Kara and me and Vickie  
and Ginny. They're out at  
Ginny's farm right now  
and I'm making a sign.

SCHEMER:

You mean they're at  
Ginny's farm having fun  
and you're stuck doing  
all the work?!!

DAN:

Well, gee, I don't think  
it's like that...

SCHEMER:

Oh no? I'll bet they're  
playing with Granger the  
dog and having hay fights  
and eating pecan tarts --  
Here, have some fudge.

DAN:

I don't know, Schemer...

SCHEMER:

Didn't Ginny bring the  
fudge for you guys in the  
first place? It's only  
fair.

DAN:

Well, maybe one piece...

(TAKES ONE PIECE. SCHEMER GETS AN  
IDEA)

SCHEMER:

You know what always  
cheers me up when I'm  
sad? Spending money!  
That's it!

(HE PRACTICALLY DRAGS DAN UP TO THE  
ARCADE, DOES A LITTLE SPELLBINDING)

SCENE 7 (CONTD)

SCHEMER (CONTD):

Just look at this  
wonderful jukebox saying  
to you "Dan, spend a  
nickel and you'll feel so  
much better after the way  
everybody's been gypin'  
you!" One nickel.

*— diff word*

DAN:

Well, it might be nice to  
hear music while making  
my sign...

SCHEMER:

Absolute-er-ooni!

DAN:

Maybe just one...

(TAKES OUT MONEY)

Except I don't have any  
nickels.

SCHEMER:

No problem-o, no  
problem, o. for a quarter  
I'll give you two dimes  
and one nickel.

}

*4200 four nickel*

DAN:

Hey, thanks, Schemer!

SCHEMER:

(RAPIDLY MAKING CHANGE)

But wait! The Schemer is  
wondering what good are  
two dimes? For two dimes  
I could give you four  
nickels.

DAN:

Gee, I don't know.

SCENE 7 (CONTD)

DAN: (CONTD)

I don't want to spend all  
this money...

SCHEMER:

You're not spending all  
your money, you're  
spending a nickel at a  
time. And what's a  
nickel? Five cents.  
Hardly worth talking  
about!

DAN:

Hey, I guess you're  
right.

SCHEMER:

Right as snow!

&gt;

*right as he*

DAN:

Here goes!

SCHEMER:

(PUTS NICKEL IN THE JUKE, MAKES A  
CHOICE)

SCHEMER:

See, don't you feel<sup>e</sup>  
better already? And while  
the song is playing, what  
could be better than to  
play with the crane  
machine!

DAN:

Well, maybe one game...

SCHEMER:

This is even better than  
fudge!

SCENE 8:

(INT. JUKEBOX)

DIDI:

Here it comes!

TITO:

Let's hit it. Ah one two  
three!

(THEY GO INTO "SWEET BETSY FROM  
PIKE")



SCENE 9:  
(MAINSET)

(DURING SONG WE SEE DAN PLAYING ALL THE ARCADE MACHINES, THOROUGHLY ENJOYING HIMSELF AND GOING BACK TO A DELIGHTED SCHEMER FOR CHANGE. FINALLY AS SONG ENDS, DAN APPROACHES REACHING IN HIS POCKET)

DAN:

Schemer, do you have more change for the machines?

SCHEMER:

Does Schemer have change for the machines? Does a flea have bear cubs? How much?

DAN:

Well...

(HE STOPS, REACHES FURTHER IN HIS POCKET, PULLS OUT INSIDE OF POCKETS)

I've got to have more --  
Oh no! Schemer, I don't have any money left!

SCHEMER:

Well, them's the breaks, eh? It was fun while it lasted though, wasn't it?

(GIVES HIM AN AFFECTIONATE HUG)

It was almost -- magical.  
Thanks for cheering me up!

(AND HE'S GONE. DAN. DISCONSOLATE, MOVES DOWN STEPS OF ARCADE, SITS ON STEPS)

(SPFX: MR. C POPS IN)

SCENE 9 (CONTD)

MR. C:

I must say, I've seen happier faces at The Annual International Frowning Contest.

DAN:

Hi, Mr. Conductor. I've done something terrible. I was supposed to hold onto the money for the party this afternoon, but then -- before I know it -- I spent it all on the Arcade!

MR. C:

Oh, well, that sounds like you lost not only dollars but some sense as well.

DAN:

But now we don't have the party! Vickie and Kara will hate me forever!

MR. C:

Oh, I don't know about that. It sounds like you just got carried away, which all of us do at some point ~~of~~ other.

DAN:

You mean you've gotten carried away?

MR. C:

Just this morning playing leap frog. I jumped too far and hurt my head on one of the rocks, and I had to be carried. away

SCENE 9 (CONTD)

DAN:

No, I mean like going too far.

MR. C:

Oh well, that's a different matter, although it's not so different from Thomas and the mine. Don't you remember?

(HE BLOWS WHISTLE)

(SPFX: THOMAS INTRO FX)

SCENE 10:

(VT: TTE "DOWN THE MINE")

SCENE 11:  
(MAINSET)

MR. C:

So you see, we all get  
carried away at some time  
or other, and sometimes  
less than other times.

DAN:

You mean that Gordon  
wasn't mad at Thomas for  
getting stuck that way?

MR. C:

Not when he saw that  
Thomas realized he'd been  
more than a little  
foolish and that he  
wouldn't do it again.

DAN:

Yeah, but that's Thomas  
and Gordon. Vickie and  
Kara will never forgive  
me for this.

MR. C:

Oh, I'm not so sure about  
that. I think if you just  
explain what happened,  
they'll understand.

(WHISPERS)

And here's your chance to  
make it clear/for if I'm  
not mistaken/ they're  
turning round the corner  
and will soon be here.

(KARA AND VICKIE BOUND ON WITH  
BOXES OF DECORATIONS)

KARA:

Boy, did we find a lot of  
fun party stuff!



SCENE 11 (CONTD)

VICKIE:

Yeah, Ginny's waiting outside in her truck to take us to Mr. Winslow's general store where we can buy the other things we need. Come on!

DAN:

Uh, just a second guys...

KARA:

Did you finish your sign?

DAN:

(REMEMBERS)

My sign! I was so worried about spending all the money I forgot about my sign!

KARA AND VICKIE:

Spending all the money?!

DAN:

Uh, well, yeah I -- you see, I sorta spent it all on the Arcade and --

(GIRLS ERUPT IN ANGER, "DAN HOW COULD YOU" AND "WE NEVER SHOULD HAVE TRUSTED YOU: ETC. BILLY APPEARS, INTERCEDES)

BILLY:

Well now, what's all this about?

VICKIE:

Billy, Dan spent all the money we were going to use for Stacy's surprise party.

SCENE 11 (CONTD)

DAN:

But I didn't mean to. It  
just sort of happened by  
accident...

BILLY:

Spending money by  
accident's an awfully  
strange thing to happen,  
but now that the damage  
is done, fighting won't  
solve it. Shouldn't you  
two listen to what Dan's  
got to say?

KARA AND VICKIE:

Well???

(DAN SHIFTS UNCOMFORTABLY)

DAN:

Well, I was working on  
the sign and Schemer came  
over -- And , well, he  
was eating our fudge  
because Aunt Stacy was  
mad at him...

VICKIE:

You let him eat the fudge  
for the party?!

DAN:

And, well...<sup>x</sup>nest thing I  
knew he said it would be  
fun to spend money on  
the machines and... *to cheer us up*

(AT THAT MOMENT A WHISTLING SCHEMER  
ENTERS WITH A LARGE CAKE BOX AND  
SIGN. HE GOES TO ARCADE, PUTS UP  
SIGN. WHICH READS "FRUIT CAKES,  
FIVE CENTS", HAPPILY UNITES STRING  
OF BOX, PULLS OUT A FRUIT CAKE. HE  
BECOMES AWARE OF ALL EYES ON HIM,  
SLOWLY TURNS)

SCENE 11 (CONTD)

SCHEMER:

Is there a problem-o?

VICKIE:

Schemer, did you make Dan  
spend all our money??

*trick Dan into spending all  
our money*

SCHEMER:

(BACKS AWAY)

I'm not talking to you.  
You're going to get mad  
at me for something. I  
can tell.

(RELENTS)

Okay, Okay, so I talked  
him into spending all  
your money!

KARA:

And you ate all our  
fudge!

SCHEMER:

I did? Oh right. I did.  
Well but hey! It gave me  
a great idea. See? "Fruit  
cakes, five cents." I got  
my mommy to make fruit  
cakes that I can sell and  
made nickels nickels  
nickels!

VICKIE:

Well, I guess we can  
accept the fruit cake for  
the fudge.

SCHEMER:

What???

SCENE 11 (CONTD)

VICKIE:

It's that or you give  
back all the money you  
made Dan spend.

SCHEMER:

(PRESENTS FRUIT CAKES WITH A  
FLOURISH)

A box of fruity cakes  
coming right up!

KIDS:

Gee, thanks, Schemer!

(TAKES FRUIT CAKES. SCHEMER  
GRUMBLES)

SCHEMER:

Who likes fruit cake  
anyway?

DISSOLVE TO:

SCENE 12:  
(MAINSET)

(LATER, AND EVERYONE IS PUTTING FINISHING TOUCHES ON DECORATIONS. THERE ARE STREAMERS AND A TABLE OF FRUIT CAKE AND COOKIES AND STUFF. A SULKING SCHEMER SITS PLAYING WITH STREAMER)

(BILLY AND GINNY ARE ON LADDERS PUTTING UP "CHEER UP, STACY!" SIGN KIDS DOING OTHER ODD JOBS)

GINNY:

"Cheer up, Stacy!" Now if that ain't one top-notch popper of a salutation, you can throw me in the *oven* and call me well done *toast* and call me pavement!

BILLY:

You three have done a fine job.

SCHEMER:

With my fruitcake...

GINNY:

Oh, Schemer, consider it your donation to the cause.

SCHEMER:

Eughhh... "Donation." I hate that word.

VICKIE:

I guess we're ready. But how do we get Stacy out here?

DAN:

We could yell fire.

SCENE 12 (CONTD)

BILLY:

That might be a little  
dangerous.

GINNY:

Give her a simple holler  
and she'll come running'.

KARA:

We could ring the ice  
cream man's bell!

SCHEMER:

Allow me!

(THEY WATCH AS, WITH A FLOURISH, A  
HAUGHTY SCHEMER MOVES TO THE TICKET  
BOOTH. SEEING WHAT HE'S ABOUT TO DO  
THEY ALL HIDE. SCHEMER HAMMERS THE  
BELL AS HE DID BEFORE)

SCHEMER (CONTD):

Miss Jones! Miss Jones!

(STACY COMES OUT OF WORKSHOP)

STACY:

Schemer didn't I tell you  
that --

(EVERYONE JUMPS OUT)

ALL:

SURPRISE!

(STACY JUMPS, REACTS, SEES THE  
DECORATIONS AND STREAMERS AND SIGN)

STACY:

But -- but what's all  
this?

SCENE 12 (CONTD)

KARA:

We thought you were sad  
because you couldn't go  
to your family reunion --

VICKIE:

So we threw you a party!

(IN B.G PHONE RINGS, BILLY GOES TO  
ANSWER)

STACY:

Oh that's wonderful! I  
don't know what to say...

DAN:

And we all helped out.

SCHEMER:

Indeed we did! Allow me  
to point out that the  
fruit cake is my  
contribution.

STACY:

Oh Schemer, that's so  
nice of you!

SCHEMER:

It's nothing.

GINNY:

You can say that again.

STACY:

I don't know what to say!  
I really don't --

BILLY:

I know what you can say.

(THEY TURN TO SEE BILLY HANGING UP  
THE PHONE)



SCENE 12 (CONTD)

BILLY (CONTD):

You can say goodbye. That was Mr King. The new schedule will be put into use right away, which means you can catch the first express train tomorrow morning to Pelican Falls!

EVERYONE:

That's great! Horray!  
You're going after all!

GINNY:

Well, gang, this is what I'd call a real celebration! Dan, how's about cutting up that fruit cake and I'll break out some of Ginny's home made apple cider!

(EVERYONE REACTS WITH ENTHUSIASM.  
DAN GOES TO TABLE TO CUT FRUIT  
CAKE, WHERE MR. C APPEARS IN A  
PARTY HAT WITH A BLOWER, ETC.)

MR. C:

I hope we're not too late  
for the party.

DAN:

Just in time, Mr.  
Conductor. I want to  
thank you for your help.

MR C:

Not at all. Without help  
getting out of trouble,  
trouble wouldn't be  
trouble at all, would it?

DAN:

I guess that's true.

SCENE 12 (CONTD)

DAN: (CONTD)

Would you like some fruit  
cake?

MR. C:

We'd love some fruit  
cake.

DAN:

We? Who's we?

MR. C;

My guest. They --

(LOOKS AROUND)

They were around here  
somewhere --

(BOTH HE AND DAN LOOK JUST IN TIME  
TO SEE SCHEMER TAKING A SIP OF  
CIDER AS A FROG JUMPS OUT OF  
NOWHERE. AS SCHEMER COMPLETELY  
FREAKS OUT WE:)

FREEZEFRAME

(CREDITS)

(END)